

Department of State

TELEGRAM

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEM BY

PER #

TOTAL COPIES:

FILE. RF. ~~CS/PS, BDO, D/DCI 6, D/ONE, DDP~~~~D/CRS, C/FE 2, C/SAVA, D/BER,~~~~C/SB, C/NE,~~~~D/OSA, C/IRS,~~

SECRET

HCF 154

PAGE 01 VIENTI 10175 111116Z

14

ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00, /070 W

006390

R 110940Z NOV 68
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 748
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONGEN HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
CINCPAC 2841

GAC GVA CJS TAD

JDJ JFR POO HGB EH

MEE TAW EHS JES UKO

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 10175

LIMDIS

D F

REF: VIENTIANE 10101 (NOTAL)

1. DURING COURSE JAPANESE RECEPTION NOVEMBER 9, (AND IN PRESENCE SOVIET AMBASSADOR AND INDIAN ICC CHAIRMAN) SOUVANNA REVERTED TO HIS EXPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER PRESENCE CHINESE ROAD BUILDING GROUP INSIDE NORTHER LAO FRONTIERS (REFTEL). HE SAID NUMBERS ENGAGED THIS ACTIVITY NOW REPORTED AT 5,000 RPT 5,000 RATHER THAN PREVIOUS LEVEL OF 3,000.

2. TURNING SPECIFICALLY TO ME, HE POINTED OUT THAT HIS AIR FORCE DID NOT HAVE HIGH LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHIC CAPABILITY TO OBTAIN CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF THIS INCURSION. HE ASKED WHETHER I COULD ARRANGE TO HAVE U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOGRAPH AREA. THEN, TURNING TO BOTH SOVIET AND INDIAN, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SHOW THEM WHATEVER PHOTOS HE COULD OBTAIN, SO THAT THEY COULD CONSIDER THEM IN THEIR CAPACITIES AS CO-CHAIRMAN AND ICC CHAIRMAN OF GENEVA ACCORDS.

3. COMMENT: I HAD ALREADY ASKED FOR U-2 PHOTOGRAPHY OF THIS AREA THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS. ALTHOUGH I DID NOT RPT NOT CONFIRM THIS TO SOUVANNA ON THE SPOT, I DID INFORM HIM ON NOVEMBER 10 THAT I WAS SEEKING PHOTOGRAPHY, WITHOUT MENTIONING THE TYPE OF PLATFORM WHICH WOULD BE USED.

GP-3 SULLIVAN

SECRET

State Department review completed